

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Ln, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Docket # 98N-1038 Irradiation in the Production
Processing, and Handling of Food. 7/8/12 '99 JUL 12 AIO:23

To Whom it May Concern,

The FDA should retain the current labeling law, the current terminology of "treated with radiation" or "treated by irradiation" and the use of the radura symbol on all irradiated whole foods.

Regarding the issue of labeling, in its initial petition, the FDA concluded that irradiation was a "material fact" about the processing of a food, and thus should be disclosed. The material fact remains; therefore, labeling should remain. Consumer acceptability, storage qualities and nutrients are affected. Some irradiated foods have different texture and spoilage characteristics than untreated foods. Most fruits and vegetables have nutrient losses that are not obvious or expected by the consumer.

In addition, processing by irradiation causes chemical changes that are not evident and are potentially hazardous. Meat may have a higher level of benzene. All irradiated foods contain unique radiolytic products that have never been tested.

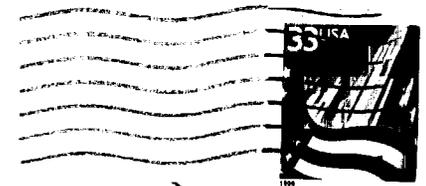
As to the kind of label used, I believe it should be large enough to be readily visible to the consumer.

98N 1038
Because of the newness of the technology and the need to assess the public health effects of its widespread use I believe that FDA's labeling requirements should not be permitted to expire. Sincerely,

From a concerned citizen and Registered Nurse
Sincerely,
C3367
Candis D. Haley



Ms. Candis Haley
309 S Springfield St
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